

# NICK FORBES

Nick Forbes was born and brought up in the North East and has degrees in Political Theory (Cambridge University, 1997), Management (Sheffield Hallam University 1999) and Music (Open University, 2010). He is also a graduate of Common Purpose.

Nick was elected as Leader of the Council in May 2011, having led Labour to victory in the local elections. He has been a Newcastle City Councillor since May 2000, and represents Westgate Ward, which includes the City Centre and parts of the Inner West and Rye Hill. Nick was elected Labour Group Leader in May 2007, having served as Deputy Leader for three years previously.

Nick has extensive local government experience. He is a member of the Association of North East Councils and Vice Chair of Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority. He has also been an Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair, a Lead Member for Older People and an Equalities Champion. Nick is a member of Labour's National Policy Forum, and was appointed to the Court of Newcastle University in 2011.

Nick trained in the NHS and is Chief Executive of Involve North East, a regional charity established to give a voice to communities in health and care service planning and delivery. He is a trained singer, performing regularly with the Northern Sinfonia Chorus, and also performs regularly as a soloist.

In his spare time he enjoys music, reading and walking in Scotland.